METHOD OF BENDING GLASS SHEETS BY PRESSING AND PARTIAL VACUUM

Applicant: SAINT-GOBAIN GLASS FRANCE

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Abstract:

The invention relates to a method of bending at least one glass sheet (3) comprising

- a step of allowing the glass to sag under gravity; then
- placing the central region of said one or more sheets (3) in contact with a male former (2) by advancing a female former (4) supporting said sheet toward said male former, said male former (2) being located above said female former (4) with vertical movement of one with respect to the other being possible in a bending cell (12);
- then a phase of pressing the glass in its peripheral region between the male former (2) and the female former; then
- a phase of holding the glass against the male former (2) by partial vacuum, pressing being continued; then
- discontinuing the pressing by separating the male former from the female former; and then
- a step of cooling the glass outside the bending cell.

The invention makes it possible to produce bends with short radii of curvature in two perpendicular directions without leaving marks on the glass.

(figure 6)